

### Remarks

Claim 1 - 5 and 7 - 10 are pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to extend their appreciation to Examiner Peng for noting that claim 6 is duplicative of claim 4. This claim is cancelled herewith.

Claims 1- 5 and 7 - 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over the combination of Fujiki et al., U.S. patent 5,536,803 ("Fujiki") in view of Pesch, et al., U.S. published application US 2001/0011117 A1 ("Pesch"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. *Fujiki* is the U.S. equivalent to EP-A-686 671 disclosed in the specification on page 2, while *Pesch* is equivalent to EP-A-875 536 disclosed in the specification on page 3.

*Fujiki* discloses addition-curable organopolysiloxane adhesive compositions where an organohydrogenpolysiloxane is employed which contains at least 12 mol percent of organo groups containing an aryl ring. *See, e.g.* the abstract, and column 2, lines 45 - 48. *Fujiki* discloses that compositions not containing the organohydrogenpolysiloxane with greater than 12 mol percent aryl radicals, does not provide satisfactory adhesion. *See also,* the discussion of *Fujiki* on page 2, line 17 of the specification, continuing to page 3, line 19.

*Pesch* discloses addition crosslinking organopolysiloxane adhesives derived from organopolysiloxanes adhesives derived from organopolysiloxanes bearing ethyleneically unsaturated hydrocarbon groups; an alkoxy silane or alkoxy siloxane also bearing at least one epoxy group; and an organohydrogensiloxane having at least 20 SiH units per molecule. In the latter respect, please note *Pesch* at ¶ [0005] and ¶ [0008]. *See also* the discussion of *Pesch* in the specification beginning at page 3, line 20, continuing to page 4, line 16.

The subject invention claims require an organohydrogensiloxane which contains less than 12% aryl groups (claim 1, line 26) and less than 20 SiH groups. Thus, the

organohydrogensiloxanes contain a limitation which *Fujiki* teaches avoiding (<12% aryl groups), and a limitation which *Pesch* teaches avoiding (less than 20% SiH).

The combination of *Fujiki* and *Pesch* (ignoring the *Pesch* limitation of >20% SiH) would suggest employing an organohydrogensiloxane with greater than 12% aryl groups with an alkoxy- and epoxy-functional silane or siloxane. However, Applicants employ an organohydrogensiloxane having less than 12% aryl groups, in direct contradistinction to *Fujiki*'s teachings.

The combination of *Fujiki* and *Pesch* (disregarding *Fujiki*'s requirement of >12% aryl groups) would suggest employing an organohydrogenpolysiloxane having >20% SiH groups with an alkoxy- and epoxy-functional silane or siloxane. However, Applicants require less than 20% SiH groups, in direct contradistinction to *Pesch*'s technology.

The preceding two paragraphs should be sufficient to conclude that the combination of *Fujiki* and *Pesch* does not render the claims obvious. However, it is axiomatic that in combining references, it is impermissible to pick and choose only portions of a reference. Thus, when combining *Fujiki* and *Pesch*, all their salient teachings must be combined. This combination would result in a composition employing *Pesch*'s alkoxy- and epoxy-functional silane, and an organohydrogensiloxane containing >12% aryl groups (*Fujiki*) and containing >20 SiH (*Pesch*). However, Applicants' organohydrogensiloxanes proceed in an opposite direction from both these requirements.

Applicants also show unexpected and non-obvious results. Example 1 employs a subject invention organohydrogenpolysiloxane with less than 12% aryl groups, with glycidoxypropyltrimethoxysilane as the alkoxy- and epoxy-functional silane. Compatibility is good and adhesion excellent. Comparative Example C1 employs the same silane, but the organohydrogensiloxane contains no aryl groups (like those of *Pesch*). Adhesion was poor. In Comparative Example 6, the same silane is again used, but the organohydrogensiloxane contains >12% aryl groups, as taught by *Fujiki*. Compatibility problems were apparent, and

the hardness, resilience, and compression set all were significantly impaired. The Examples and Comparative Examples clearly indicate the surprising and unexpected benefits obtained by the present invention. Withdrawal of the rejection over *Fujiki* in view of *Pesch* is solicited.

Applicants submit that the claims are now in condition for Allowance, and respectfully request a Notice to that effect. If the Examiner believes that further discussion will advance the prosecution of the Application, they are highly encouraged to telephone Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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